

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1 and 6 are currently pending in this application, as amended. By the present amendment claim 1 and 6 have been amended, and claim 2 has been canceled. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

The amendment to claim 1 incorporates claim 2 and subject matter from the application at page 5, last paragraph. The amendment to claim 6 corrects a minor formality to make sure that it is the “traction mechanism” which is being referred to in the claim.

#### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

In the action, claims 1, 2, 4 and 6 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable over combination of DE 102 53 495, U.S. Patent No. 2,392,573 to Brock et al. and US2004/0227400 to Kraus et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a traction mechanism drive comprising an integrated starter generator with the traction mechanism roller arranged on a generator shaft over which a traction mechanism is guided. The starter generator is mounted in a displaceable manner in order to set traction mechanism in tension counter to a restoring force. The traction mechanism roller is de-couplable from the generator shaft

via a freewheel for damping peak loads occurring on a drive side, and the starter generator is mounted in a displaceable manner by a hydraulic element, which is actuated to tension the traction mechanism independently for a start-up mode and for a generator mode.

The action admits that DE '495 fails to disclose a generator mounted in a displaceable manner in order to set the traction mechanism in tension counter to a restoring force. Brock et al. is cited as teaching a tractor generator with a spring mounting in order to increase belt tension. Kraus et al. is cited as disclosing a tensioner that includes a hydraulically controlled actuator (25) used to pivot a tension roller (10) into contact with a belt in an adjustable manner. However, none of the references disclose or suggest a starter generator as claimed in which a hydraulic element used to mount the starter generator is actuated to tension the traction mechanism independently for the start-up mode and the generator mode. This is used in combination with a freewheel for damping peak loads during operation.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the section 102 rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and should be similarly patentable for the reasons noted above in connection with claim 1.

**Applicant:** Painta et al.  
**Application No.:** 10/598,806

**Conclusion**

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1 and 6, is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Painta et al.

By\_\_\_\_/Randolph J. Huis/\_\_\_\_  
Randolph J. Huis  
Registration No. 34,626  
(215) 568-6400

Volpe and Koenig, P.C.  
United Plaza, Suite 1600  
30 South 17th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

RJH/dmm